



MISSOURI SENATE  
JEFFERSON CITY

Robin Wright-Jones  
5<sup>th</sup> Senate District

CAPITOL BUILDING, ROOM 425  
JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101

**For Immediate Release:**  
**January 28, 2010**

**Contact: Debbie Belcher**  
**(573) 751-2606**

## **Senator Robin Wright-Jones Applauds Issuance of Tax Credits to Local Youth Program**

---

JEFFERSON CITY – Senator Robin Wright-Jones, D-St. Louis, announces the recent approval of tax credits for the 5<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District for the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Missouri. Tax credits totaling \$250,000 were issued by the Department of Economic Development’s (DED) Youth Opportunities Program.

This Big Brothers Big Sisters organization, located at 501 North Grand, Ste. 100 in St. Louis, will use a portion of these tax credits to provide one-on-one mentoring services to at-risk youth in St. Louis City and St. Louis County. Another portion will be used for the Big Brothers Big Sisters in Cape Girardeau County.

“Mentoring programs like these found at the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Missouri will help youth in the St. Louis area focus on their academics, improve their attitude toward overall education, and provide the necessary interventions needed to get our children on the right track,” said Sen. Wright-Jones. “These programs help decrease the chance of our youth from making bad decisions, which could result in our children going down a path where they could make the wrong choices throughout their young lives.”

The DED’s Youth Opportunities Program is designed to broaden and strengthen opportunities for positive development and participation in community life for Missouri’s youth. The program also discourages our state’s youth from engaging in criminal and violent behavior.

To learn more about this program and other programs offered by the DED, click on the [BCS Programs link](#) on the DED’s Missouri Business Center website at [www.missouridevelopment.org](http://www.missouridevelopment.org).

-END-